A CULTURAL RESOURCES OVERVIEW, SURVEY, AND EVALUATION OF THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, BOISE, IDAHO

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ABSTRACT

In April 1983, the National Park Service contracted with Environment Consultants, Inc. to conduct a cultural resources overview, survey, and test evaluation of historic features on the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) 68 acre property in the northeastern section of Boise, Idaho, and to prepare a management plan for the cultural resources attributed to historic utilization of Fort Boise or Boise Barracks as it was later known. This study was prompted by proposed construction within the property and a desire to responsibly manage these historic resources. The U.S. Army constructed Fort Boise in 1863. The Fort was used as a base during various Indian wars in the late 1860s and in the 1870s. It was renamed Boise Barracks in 1879 and became an Army and National Guard facility in 1913. In 1919, it became a veterans hospital. The Fort went through various stages of construction and development, and it is still changing as indicated by the necessity of this project. The present investigation included testing of seven former buildings and three sets of historic features plus surveying of the entire VAMC grounds. This resulted in the location of five to six unrecorded historic features and an isolated prehistoric flake. The various historical, architectural, and archaeological elements of Fort Boise have the potential to be used to deal with research concerns such as fort reconstruction, chronology, subsistence, military politics, demography, military strategy, and spatial relationships.

FOREWORD

The purpose of this investigation of Fort Boise, Idaho was, essentially, to provide a cultural resources overview of the fort and to determine the research potential of the fort based on the overview and archaeological investigation. From this, a management plan was to be developed that can be used during planning of proposed construction projects at the fort. Our investigation indicates that there is strong potential for future research.

The cultural resources overview describes the prehistoric and historic resources of the fort. In addition, the historic background section serves as an extensive compilation of historic documentation of the fort and it results in a presentation of the history as it relates to the economic, social, political, and physical aspects of Fort Boise. The fort's history includes description of the development, expansion, and various uses of the post. This history also demonstrates the interrelationship of the fort with the local and regional framework.

Combination of the historic research with the results of archaeological investigation was useful in showing the research potential of Fort Boise through site-specific and regional interests. These interests are concerned with the various historical, architectural, and archaeological elements of the fort. These elements can be used to deal with research concerns such as in-depth fort reconstruction, more definitive temporal components, subsistence, military politics, post and regional civilian demography, military strategy, and spatial relationships. The fort will prove to be of public importance in the light of growing interest and involvement in the frontier history of the United States.

S. Alan Skinner, Ph.D. Principal Investigator AR Consultants

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The successful completion of this project was due to the efforts of several people. Ken Swanson, Curator of Collections, Idaho State Museum, is to be thanked for his contributions to both the overview and fieldwork aspects of this project. His vast knowledge of post history and Civil War history helped answer many questions and lead us through many logistical problems in the field. Jim Ingraham, a consulting archaeologist, who lives in Washington, D.C., was of immense aid. Jim looked through files of maps and records on Fort Boise at the National Archives and, with the aid of Don Sutherland, Veterans Administration Archaeologist in Washington, D.C., provided us with clear mylar overlays of the most critical historic maps.

The two crew members, Larry Kingsbury and Susie Pengilly, were exceptionally good workers who helped make the fieldwork flow smoothly. The aid of Mr. Jim Goff, Director of the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Boise, Jim Holland, Chief Engineer, and Tom Robinson, Resident Engineer, in locating some maps and cards on the Center grounds, and informing us of impending project plans was invaluable.

Ann Polk, Staff Archaeologist at ECI's Ogden Office (now Sagebrush Archaeological Consultants), is also to be thanked for her tireless efforts to complete the maps and revise the text under pressure of impending deadlines.

We extend our appreciation to several individuals in the Dallas Office of ECI. We wish to thank Jeyne Bennett for her editing and for pulling the first draft of the report together. David Higginbotham and Nina R. Skinner completed the drafting for the report, and Susan Levine and Lillie Weeams word processed the first draft. The revised report was word processed by Barbara Hawkins of Professional Services Unlimited. They are all to be thanked for their efforts in this project.

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I. INTRODUCTION

In late April, 1983 Environment Consultants, Inc. (ECI) contracted with the National Park Service, Western Regional Office (NPS) to conduct a cultural resources overview, survey, and test evaluation of historic features on the Veterans Administration Medical Center property (VAMC) in Boise, Idaho. The project area includes 68 acres and is located in the northeastern section of the city of Boise. The VAMC incorporates most of the built up parts of the old Fort Boise/Boise Barracks Military Post within its current boundaries (Figure 1). The importance of Fort Boise is recognized by its presence on the National Register of Historic Places on the basis of its historic and architectural merits.

This study was prompted, in large part, by planned construction of a nursing home, four auxillary parking lots, and expansion of existing underground electrical and sprinkler systems on the VAMC. These projects posed a potentially adverse threat to significant archaeological remains of Fort Boise which underlie parts of the existing landscaping and modern buildings of the VAMC. There was also a potential for previously unknown prehistoric sites which would require consideration in planning processes. Thus, it was felt that management information was needed in order to adequately plan for construction of these and future projects. investigation was necessary to comply with federal mandates including the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (P.L. 89-665 as amended by P.L. 96-515); Executive Order 11593 of 1971; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and implementing regulations of 36CFR800, which, as a whole, require identification, evaluation, and protection of significant prehistoric and historic cultural resources on federal lands and federally funded and licensed projects.

The objectives of this investigation were to 1) prepare an overview of the environment, prehistory, and history of the area in order to help predict the locations of potentially significant properties and to provide a context within which to evaluate the significance of predicted and identified archaeological materials and features; 2) carry out an intensive survey for prehistoric and historic resources over the entire VAMC Boise; 3) conduct limited subsurface testing in areas of Fort Boise within the VAMC grounds where significant structures or other features of potential archaeological value were known or thought to occur; 4) prepare a management plan which will identify historic and prehistoric properties, evaluate their significance, and recommend various management options to consider concerning cultural resources when planning construction projects; and 5) specify the research potential of Fort Boise, the areas within the fort of value to this research, and the recommended treatment of these areas.

In order to effectively carry out this project it was decided that the overview research would be completed prior to implementation of fieldwork so that any information obtained in that research useful for field research could be incorporated into the fieldwork. Bradford Cole carried out the overview research and report preparation.

Historic maps of the fort were vital to effective overview research and fieldwork. While some maps were obtained from the NPS, several valuable additions were procured by Jim Ingraham, Historic Archaeological Consultant for ECI, from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. The combination of maps from 1866, 1871, 1884, 1895, 1896, 1904, 1907 and 1927 (some of which were also procured from the Idaho State Historical Society Archives and the VA staff) revealed the progression of physical changes which occurred at the post (and later the VAMC) during that period.

Almost all written source material for the project overview was obtained from the Idaho State Historical Society Library and Archives. Site forms describing nearby prehistoric sites and the original National Register of Historic Places nomination form for Fort Boise/Boise Barracks were obtained from the Office of the State Archaeologist in Boise.

Much of the initial archaeological information on the post, changes in buildings, as well as interpretations of artifacts and features which were located during the survey and subsurface probing, were supplied by Ken Swanson, Archaeological Consultant for ECI on this project. His knowledge of the post, its changes, the artifacts found in the area, and the locations and nature of buildings and artifacts from recent construction projects on the VAMC is unsurpassed.

The following report is divided into three separate sections. The first (Chapter II) presents an overview of the natural environment and the culture history of Fort Boise and the region. The historic background of this section presents the history of use and construction at the fort. The evolution of the built landscape incorporates documentary research as well as interpretation of the fort maps which were available from just after the inception of the fort until 1927. Chapter II concludes with archaeological research concerns that were derived from the overview and which guided fieldwork and are considered in preparing the management recommendations. Chapter III presents the results of fieldwork that was conducted at Fort Boise in 1983. A discussion of previous investigations at the fort and the disposition of the collections is included along with a description of the methodology used to investigate the site. The fourth chapter (IV) contains a management plan for cultural resources at Fort Boise that is based on the results of the overview and fieldwork as well as comparison with studies of other forts and historic sites in the West. Chapter V presents the references that were cited in the report.

II. CULTURAL RESOURCES OVERVIEW

In order to specify the aims and goals of the testing program at the VAMC, it is necessary to present the contextual background that guided testing and provided a framework for evaluating the results and understanding the prehistoric and historic development of the area. The most important cultural resource known on the VAMC property is the former Fort Boise/Boise Barracks, although until the present survey was completed, it was suspected by the State Archaeologist that some prehistoric resources were extant in the area. Following is a short discussion of the present environment and the prehistory of the area together with a description of the known prehistoric sites near the VAMC. A comprehensive overview of the history of Fort Boise/Boise Barracks follows.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The project area is located in the Idaho Batholith subdivision of the Northern Rocky Mountain Province in southwestern Idaho just north of the Snake River near the banks of the Boise River (Thornbury 1965). The project area lies on a series of major alluvial terraces and the steep hills of the Boise Front which rapidly rise to the north of the Fort Boise site. The elevation of the area is between about 2,720 and 3,000 feet above sea level. Two creeks drain the project area and historically supplied water to the fort. Cottonwood Creek and Freestone Creek emanate from the hills and mountains to the north and east, join just east of the VAMC, and flow west into the Boise River.

Soils in the vicinity of the VAMC (on the low river terrace) consist of deep, poorly drained loams while those on the immediately higher terraces to the east and north are well-drained loams and fine gravelly loamy coarse sands. Riverwash soils occur along Cottonwood and Freestone creeks (Collett 1980).

The varied terrain of the Boise Valley presents a varied rainfall and vegetation pattern. In the VAMC vicinity, precipitation averages about 11.5 inches per year with about 22.7 inches of snow annually. Rainfall is most common from November through May, although the area usually receives some rain every month. Winters are cold, but not severe, and summers are hot with little precipitation. Temperatures average about 30.5° F in January and 74.9° F in July with considerable fluctuation around those norms.

Vegetation in the project area is now quite altered by landscaping and a variety of ornamental plantings, but the native species, which once flourished, still exist to some extent on the undeveloped portions of the property. The lower river terrace, where the VAMC now exists, undoubtedly once supported stands of cottonwood (Populus angustifolia), aspen (Populus tremuloides), and willow (Salix sp.) along with sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata) and grasses. On the slightly elevated terraces, a sagebrush-grass zone occurs where the predominant plants are sagebrush and bluebunch wheatgrass (Agrapyron spicatum) (Daubenmire 1952:3). A broad range of animal life once inhabited the project area including mule deer (Odocoileus), elk (Cervus), sheep (Ovis), jackrabbit (Lepus), raccoon (Procyon), muskrat (Ondatra), beaver (Castar), and migratory waterfowl. In addition, large numbers of salmon

(e.g., Onchorhynchus, Salmo) migrated up the Boise River several times each year from March to October (Welch et al. 1965).

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL BACKGROUND

Prehistory

1

The prehistoric record of southwestern Idaho is still poorly known. The earliest evidence of man in this region is from the Paleo-Indian period, a time in which the subsistence base of humans centered around hunting of now extinct forms of bison, as well as mammoth and camel. Evidence of this early presence is found at Wilson Butte Cave on the Snake River Plain and dated at 14,500 years B.P. (before present) (Gruhn 1965) and at the Wasden Site in eastern Idaho dating to 12,800 B.P. (Butler 1972). Additional evidence for a big game hunting tradition has been found in several areas of southwestern Idaho in the form of surface finds of Clovis and Folsom points. Large Plano points from the same tradition have also been found (Butler 1965, 1973a, 1978).

A transition from a big game hunting period to the Archaic, about 7000-8000 years B.P., is marked by the introduction of side-notched and stemmed, indented base projectile points which replace the earlier Late Plano points (Butler 1978:67-68). However, the big game hunting emphasis continued into the early part of this period since most sites suggest that large game mammals are still the predominant food resource.

Later in the Archaic period, side and corner-notched points are introduced to the area accompanied by milling stones, groundstone atlatl weights, and large fire-cracked rock concentrations which were probably used as heating stones in cooking (Butler 1973b:18). This artifact inventory reveals a considerable shift in subsistence activities to more of a reliance on collection of wild seeds, roots, nuts, and berries, supplemented with hunting, a pattern which continued into historic times.

The Late Archaic period, beginning about A.D. 1200 and extending into historic times, is identified by the introduction of small, triangular side-notched points and pottery, often termed "Shoshoni" ware (Touhy 1956; Butler 1978:70). The Shoshoni Indian origin of much of the pottery in Idaho has recently come into question (Butler 1979, 1980, 1981a and b; Plew 1981). It is possible that some of the ware is Great Salt Lake Gray Ware of Fremont origin which would strongly suggest a Fremont presence in southern Idaho on a magnitude not considered previously.

Other changes also took place during this period of time. In the 1600s, the horse was introduced to the area and had enormous impact on the native cultures, though this was more keenly felt in the eastern part of the state where access to the bison of the Plains made the horse more valuable. In the southwestern part of the state, the hunting, gathering, and fishing pattern remained similar to the earlier period.

Ethnographic Pattern

In the project area the main inhabitants in the Proto-Historic period were western Shoshoni, part of a much larger linguistic grouping which extended into Nevada,

California, Utah, Wyoming, and Oregon. Some northern Paiutes also lived in the area from time to time. The Shoshoni in this area were not strongly unified politically or territorially. Rather, the Indians lived in small independent villages along the Snake River and its tributaries. The Boise River valley was a particularly favored location for occupation. The area had mild winters; the river had salmon runs; and the meadows had camas (Steward 1938:172). Fishing the Boise and Snake rivers was a main subsistence practice in the area. The rivers yielded large numbers of salmon and other fish species. Roots were plentiful in the valleys, and game was commonly found in the nearby mountains (Murphy and Murphy 1960:318-319). The major subsistence pattern practiced in the area was to winter in small camps along the Boise River living on stored foods (roots, salmon, and jerked game meat) and hunt local game such as sagehen, bluegrouse, snowshoe rabbits, antelope, and deer. In the spring, the major food source was the salmon run in the river. This was supplemented with some roots which came into season. In early summer, many of the Indians in the area traveled to Camas Prairie to the east to dig roots and dry them. Festivals and dances were also held at this time. This represented perhaps the largest gatherings that the Shoshoni ever held during the year. In late summer, the people returned to the Boise River region. Fish were again taken in the fall run and dried for winter rations. Hunting, however, was the main subsistence activity. The Indians hunted deer, elk, bear and some bighorn sheep. The hunts were carried out in small groups, this being much more effective than communal endeavors. The Shoshoni in this area possessed some horses, but were certainly much poorer in this respect than the buffalo hunter to the east.

Previous Research

There has been little prehistoric archaeological research in the Boise area. In fact, only two sites have been recorded within several miles of the VAMC. In 1976, Michael Ostrogorsky recorded two sites near the old State Penitentiary. These sites were 10AA101, a prehistoric village containing a large circular midden with river mussel shell fragments and 10AA102, a large Indian burial ground. Other prehistoric sites undoubtedly exist in and around Boise, but there has not been sufficient fieldwork to locate and record them.

HISTORIC BACKGROUND - FORT BOISE/BOISE BARRACKS

The sources used for this report were picked because of their availability at the Idaho State Historical Society's library, located in Boise, Idaho. Adding to this rationale was the short amount of time allotted to the historic research aspect of the project, approximately two working weeks. The most important consideration for choosing Boise as the research center for the project was the presence of a good variety of source materials, including good primary reference materials. Available at the library were the papers of Major Pinckney Lugenbeel, founder of the Fort, a complete set of Fort Boise Post Returns, a comprehensive collection of area newspapers, plus other resources such as photographs, maps, early Boise manuscripts, census manuscripts (Idaho Territorial Census 1870, 1880) and secondary source material. An added bonus was the close proximity of Fort Boise to the library.

The two major primary sources used at the library were the Lugenbeel papers and the Post Returns. Both of these sources turned out to be valuable, but unfortunately their value was in relation to the first twenty years of Fort Boise's existence rather than its later history. The Lugenbeel collection provided good information about the construction of Fort Boise and its growth in the first two years. The remainder of the collection dealt with Lugenbeel's life after leaving Fort Boise. The Post Returns did give detailed information on the functions of the post, between the years 1863-1915. Beginning in June of 1863 they list data on troop strength, companies present, civilians employed and a written comment about the activities for that month. However, the Returns changed in character at the end of the 1870s. In the later years, the quartermasters section of the Returns was not as detailed as in the early Returns, and the record keeping did not seem as good as earlier. Thus, these two sources biased the report toward the early years of Fort Boise.

In addition, the book A Webfoot Volunteer: The Diary of William M. Hilleary, 1864-1866 (Nelson and Onstad 1965), gives an excellent account of Fort Boise in 1866. Again this adds a bias toward the early years of Fort Boise.

In using the Post Returns, time was a limiting factor. For example, keeping track of the troop movement and troop strength on a monthly basis alone would have required several days of research.

Thus, in the middle of the research, a major problem surfaced: What happened at Fort Boise between the years 1880-1915? The only possible manner in which to obtain this information, with the sources at my disposal, was to turn to newspaper accounts, post maps and secondary source material. This inevitably led to some inferences based upon scant information and a preponderance of newspaper citations. Building activity could be seen by changes in the maps, but was difficult to document elsewhere. The manuscript census proved another important research source. Again, because of the factors, a compiled version of the census was used, just to give a quick idea of the makeup of the personnel at the fort. If the time and money were available to carry this project to the National Archives then more satisfactory answers to many additional questions could be obtained.

The historic period in the Boise area began with the Hunt Expedition of 1811-1812, expeditions of the Northwest Company (1818-1821), Hudson's Bay Company (1821-1856), and some American Fur Companies who entered the area in transit to Oregon or to trap the Snake River country for furs (Beal and Wells 1959:60-195). The Astorians were first to reach the area. In 1811, they entered the Boise River Basin in route to the Oregon coast. Penetration of the area by British fur trappers soon followed with the arrival of Donald McKenzie (1818-1820) Alexander Ross in 1824 and 1826 (Schoonover 1972), Peter Skene Ogden (1825-1826), Nathaniel Wyeth (1834), and Jason Lee (1834). The route followed by most of these trappers eventually became the Oregon Trail which was so often used between the 1840s and 1860s (Schoonover 1972:82-88). American fur trappers soon followed the British resulting in a fierce competition for the fur trade in the Snake River County. By the 1830s, however, beaver had been virtually eliminated from the region by the intensive trapping resulting in an end to the fur trade.

In 1843, the Army sent John C. Fremont to survey the Oregon Trail, which had been previously blazed by fur trappers. This expedition opened the entire Oregon country to American settlers and eventually resulted in acquisition of the territory by the United States (Beal and Wells 1959:231-234). Old Fort Boise, founded by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1834 on the Snake River north of the current city of Boise (Idaho State Historical Society Reference Series No. 20 hereafter referred to as ISHSR), was originally a fur trading post, but during the 1840s became an important supplier to overland travelers on the Oregon Trail in the southwestern Idaho area. The flow of immigrants continued along the Oregon Trail through the 1840s and 1850s with sporadic incidents of Indian attacks on travelers and scattered settlers. This led to the addition of Army patrols to wagon trains from Fort Hall in eastern Idaho to Old Fort Boise in western Idaho (Wells 1982:18).

The strategic location of Old Fort Boise was soon recognized by the military, and, when the Hudson's Bay Company abandoned Fort Boise in 1855, the U.S. Army supported a plan to build a post in the vicinity. The first serious effort to build such a post in the Boise region was in 1860, although the outbreak of the Civil War abruptly ended that effort. Much more value in such an installation was seen, after the discovery of gold in the Boise Basin in 1862 resulted in a mass immigration of gold seekers to the region and a subsequent growing tension between settlers, miners, and Indians who occupied the area. The friction between these groups resulted in the rise of vigilante groups. This development, coupled with demands for protection from the Indians, forced the Union Army to initiate plans to construct a post during the summer of 1863 (Sudweeks 1961:35).

The construction of Fort Boise fit into the desires of the United States military to protect Oregon Trail immigrants. General Benjamin Alvord, Commander of the Columbia District, had protection of the Oregon Trail as one of his priorities. With the rising violence in the Boise Basin, and the fact that the overland immigration continued strongly through the Civil War years forced the military to build a post in the Boise area (Utley 1967:226.) Fort Boise thus filled an area along the Oregon Trail previously void of a permanent military installation.

The decision to build a post in the Boise Valley, which was prompted in large part by the influx of gold miners to the area in 1862, coincided with the withdrawal of frontier regulars to fight in the Civil War (Nelson and Onstad 1965:1). This withdrawal left the area open for confrontations between local Indians and newly forming groups of vigilantes. In addition to this, Union Army officials in the West were concerned about the existence of Confederate sympathizers in the area. Thus, in 1862, the Oregon State and Washington Territorial Legislatures authorized the assignment of volunteer troops to the new post in Idaho (:1-2). As an enlistment enticement, Oregon offered any man a bounty of one-hundred and fifty dollars if he would sign up for three years. The pay was received in thirds. The initial third was paid out upon enlistment, the second part after eighteen months of service, and the remainder upon completion of the three year term (:10).

Once a decision to construct Fort Boise had been made, General Alvord sent Major Pinckney Lugenbeel, in command of Companies D, G, H, and I of the Washington Infantry Volunteers in Walla Walla, Washington, to the Boise region. These men were joined by the First Oregon Cavalry Volunteers, Company A (Sudweeks 1961:35). The Washington Infantrymen were dispatched with Lugenbeel, but in the

first monthly Post Return from Camp Boise (Post Returns, June 1863), Company A of the First Oregon Cavalry Volunteers was listed, indicating that they had joined Lugenbeel at some point along the way. Lugenbeel proceeded to the Boise Basin where his orders were to erect a fort on a site with attention paid to its "...salubrity, military defense, and the protection of the frontier..." and included the building of "...temporary quarters for five companies (Sudweeks 1961:59)."

Upon arrival in the Boise Valley in June, 1863, Lugenbeel began to search for an appropriate site for the post. Upon recommendations of local residents, he considered and finally selected a site on the basis of its strategic position and its proximity to needed resources. The site commanded a good view of the Boise Valley and lay adjacent to the road to Idaho City and the major gold areas of the northern Boise Basin. Necessary resources such as wood, hay, and sandstone were within a few miles of the site. In addition, Cottonwood and Freestone creeks crossed through the site, providing an adequate water supply.

Although site selection went well for Lugenbeel, problems of desertion and undisciplined officers troubled his command. The volunteers received their pay in legal tender worth considerably less than its face value due to devaluation caused by the Civil War. Comparably, miners in the region made higher wages paid in coin. This, and the added incentive of possibly "striking it rich" in the mines, led to desertions (ISHSR No. 130). Additionally, animosity developed between volunteers and their officers. Unlike the Regular Army, to which Lugenbeel belonged, a volunteer officer's selection often resulted from political connections rather than military knowledge or leadership ability. In the first two months after arrival in the Boise Basin, Lugenbeel lost forty-nine men or one-fourth of his garrison to desertion (Post Returns, June 1863).

Despite this setback, construction of the post was initiated in early July, and by the end of the month, it showed considerable progress. Lugenbeel (1863) wrote a letter to his daughter at the end of July in which he told of the progress made on the fort. A lime kiln had been built, a sawmill had been started, and a blacksmith shop was completed except for the shingles. An office for the quartermaster was about two-thirds complete, and they had begun to make adobes.

As the soldiers built the post, several entrepreneurs decided to begin a community under the protective influence of the new fort. Settlement in the valley had begun as early as February 1863 since it was recognized that the nearby mines and the valley farms "... offered an important economic base for a commercial center (Wells 1982:18)." By the time the post was begun, the value of the area was confirmed, and a town was planned. On July 7, 1863, the town of Boise was surveyed and divided into town lots. It was only one mile from the new military post, and most of the early Boiseans opened stores to take advantage of the business opportunity (Wells 1982:18). Included in the new town were three of the Army post's officers. The names of Post Surgeon Steinberger, Major Lugenbeel, and Quartermaster W. B. Hughes all appear on the original plat map of Boise. Hughes even joined in a mercantile business with Mr. B. M. Durell. Their store did so well that Hughes contemplated retirement from the Army to concentrate his efforts toward his business (Hughes 1864a).

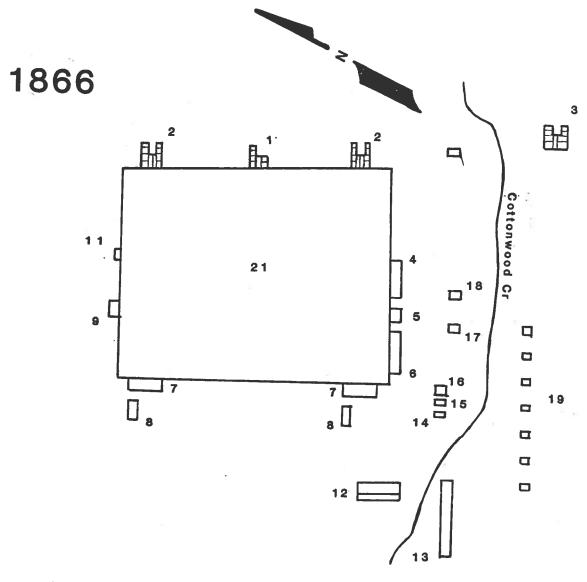
A large number of civilians were employed by the post. Civilian employment not only benefitted the city, but increased the productivity of construction at Fort Boise. Camp herders and cooks were the first civilians hired by the post. After the start of construction, however, many skilled workmen also were employed. To compete with wages paid at the mines, many of the skilled workman were paid in coin, sometimes as much as five dollars a day. In July, 1863, 138 civilians were employed by the post which was more than the 125 enlisted men stationed at the garrison. By the end of August, the post had hired 153 civilians. The pace of construction is revealed by the types of skilled workers hired over a period of time. In August there were 15 carpenters and hewers, seven stone masons, and one sawyer on the payroll. The remainder were herders and camptenders. By the end of August, a sawmill had been constructed so that lumber and shingles were now readily available. The employment of stone workers revealed that sandstone was to be a major building material. In late October, 1863, seven shinglers were hired which indicates that several of the buildings were nearing completion. In addition to hiring laborers and skilled craftsmen, the Army awarded contracts to civilians to secure wood and hay for the post (U. S. National Archives 1968).

The Army was fortunate to obtain the services of a highly skilled stone mason for work on the fort buildings. On his way to Boise, Lugenbeel met Charles May, a recent emmigrant from England, who was then a stone mason in Walla Walla, Washington. Lugenbeel convinced May to accompany his expedition to Boise and to aid in constructing the new fort. May was instrumental in the construction of the numerous sandstone buildings at Fort Boise. His knowledge of stone work was also used in the city of Boise where he helped construct early stone structures for local residents. The quality of workmanship visible today at the post and in the city attests to May's knowledge of stone work. It is likely that May trained others in stone masonry while at the post and certainly attracted other stone workers to the area (Bruce 1963; Wells 1982:20). Thus, the fort construction had an important role in the development of a sandstone building tradition in Boise.

As the first stage of building at Fort Boise came to a close in the latter part of 1864, the city of Boise gained in prominence. In December, 1864, Boise became the territorial capitol (ISHSR No. 129). Between 1863 and 1864 the population of Boise had risen from 725 to over 1600 people (ISHSR No. 129, 130).

By the fall of 1864, Fort Boise was basically complete, with the exception of plastering the quarters and fitting their porches. The size of the post had been scaled down from original plans. No copy of these original plans was found during this study. The finished post was built to house only three companies rather than the five which had been the original plan. Lugenbeel was no longer in charge of the post by this time. He had been called to Vancouver, Washington to serve as Provost Marshall General for the Columbia District in the fall of 1863 (Sudweeks 1961:60).

The earliest available graphic description of Fort Boise appears on an 1866 map of the post (Figure 2). In 1866, the fort did not likely differ significantly from that in 1864 when Quartermaster Hughes wrote Lugenbeel claiming that the post was near completion (Hughes 1864b). The post had a rectangular shape with the buildings arranged around a small parade ground that measured about 770 ft by 520 ft and was oriented roughly northwest-southeast. The officers quarters dominated the



LEGEND

- 1. Commanding Officers Quarters
- Officers Quarters 2.
- 3. Hospital
- 4. Quartermasters Store
- Quartermasters Office 5.
- 6. Commissarys Store
- 7. Company Quarters
- Company Mess Rooms 8.
- 9. Guard House
- Ordnance Store House

- 12. E. M. Stables
- 13. Cavalry Stables
- 14. Blacksmith Shop
- Wheelwright Shop 15.
- 16.
- Carpenter Shop
- Post Bakery 17.
- 18. Saddler Shop
- 19. Laundrys Quarters
- 21. Parade Ground

Figure 2. Schematic plan of Fort Boise from an 1866 map.

post since they were set upon a hill where they overlooked the entire post and created the northeastern side of the parade ground. There were three officers quarters buildings, all were built of native sandstone and roofed with wooden shingles. The commanding officers quarters were located between the officers quarters. Immediately to the southeast of the officers row was an unnamed rectangular building. To the south and east was the hospital. The hospital was made of two 3 room buildings that were connected by a narrow room or hallway. In the notes that accompany the 1866 map, the hospital is reported to have burned and not been rebuilt.

On the south side of the parade ground stood the storehouses: two sandstone buildings, each measuring about one hundred ft in length and thirty ft in width. They were used respectively as the quartermasters store and the commissary store or post commissary. A building which stood between the two was called the quartermasters office. The 1866 map is the only one to portray this particular building, so it is unclear from the records examined whether it was really ever built or if it was just removed before the 1870s.

Clustered to the west and south of the storehouses were the carpenter shop, the post bakery, the wheelwright shop, the blacksmith shop and the saddler shop. These latter buildings were all built of log and lumber and were one to two room workshops. Further southwest were seven laundrys (sic) quarters, all were of log construction.

Across from the officers row on the western side of the parade ground were the enlisted mens barracks. These were separated into infantry and cavalry barracks. The infantry barracks were at the northern end of the parade ground, and the cavalry barracks were located at the southern end. In 1866, the two complexes were identical. Each consisted of a rectangular stone building approximately 25 ft wide and 90 ft long, the long side lying parallel to the parade ground. Associated with each barrack was a company mess that was 50 ft long and 25 ft wide. According to the 1866 map of the post, the mess buildings lay at a 90 degree angle to the barracks and were about 25 ft away from the back of the quarters. William M. Hilleary, a Corporal in the First Oregon Infantry Volunteers, stationed at Fort Boise in 1866, mentioned that the quarters were "... built of stone and are tolerable comfortable . . . (Nelson and Onstad 1965:148)." To complete the post quadrangle as shown in the 1866 map, there were two buildings on the northwest side of the parade ground opposite the storehouses. These were the guardhouse or "Hotel de Crossbar" as it was known by the men (:155), and the ordnance house where munitions were stored. The guardhouse was built of stone while the ordnance house was built of logs and lumber.

In addition to the above, two stables were built to the southwest of the quadrangle: one for the enlisted men and one for the cavalry. Both were frame buildings, but large logs were used for structural beams (Idaho Daily Statesman 1926). The enlisted mens stable was oriented roughly north-south and measured 120 ft by 80 ft. The cavalry stable was oriented roughly east-west and measured 50-60 ft by 200 ft. Cottonwood Creek ran between the two stables and also separated the laundress quarters and the hospital from the remainder of the post.

s-Her-poddler

Hilleary provided a good account of life at the post and the interaction between the city and the post in 1866. Quarters for the infantrymen were tight. Hilleary's group ate in the squad room because there was not enough room for them in the mess house. Hilleary noted that for the first time on January II the Webfoot Volunteers "... sat down to supper where our fingers were not called into service, while taking a bit of meat, except to hold the fork (Nelson and Onstad 1965:149)." Although the quarters were adequate, Hilleary stated that one morning, snow had blown in through the roof and covered their blankets (:151). By the summer of 1866, United States Army Regulars were moving back in force to the West. By early summer, 1866, the Volunteers were moved into tents to make room for the Regulars (:188). The location of these tent sites is not mapped and is not referred to in the available documents.

The town of Boise was a frontier town during its first years, open to occasional bursts of spontaneous enthusiasm brought about by miners, transients, and soldiers. Hilleary indicates that payday meant a "general bender". A payday also meant that the Sutler collected most of the paychecks (Nelson and Onstad 1965:169). Wells (1982) mentions that A. G. Redway was the sutler and implies that he was a Boise businessman. Downtown Boise provided the soldiers a break from boredom, and they took advantage of it. Hilleary mentioned that there was a theatre there that "...draws many a green back from the soldiers...". The entertainment included "...comical farces and partially nude girls singing songs... (Nelson and Onstad 1965:148)."

Boredom was widespread among the soldiers. This was evident by the amount of gambling and drinking that occurred at the post. Gambling stakes were tobacco that was provided by the Sutler; the other pastime was drinking. Hilleary wrote that men would trade their winter clothing for whiskey. According to Army regulations this was a court martialable offense (Rickey 1963:149).

The boredom of the officers at Fort Boise was relieved through having parties and balls for the townspeople. Occasionally, the enlisted men were treated to a party by the officers, especially upon return from a mission (Nelson and Onstad 1965:165). The officers seemed to have parties at the slightest pretext. For instance, on one occasion, a ball was held at the post hospital in honor of a baby's birthday. Hilleary commented "... something new to keep the whiskey running. Let 'em sail (:151)." On one occasion, the officers even went to Idaho City to attend a social function.

The post and the city usually had good relations. In 1866, the city still had no jail. As a result, law breaking citizens were brought to the post and placed in the guardhouse (Nelson and Onstad 1965:149). Farmers in the valley traded vegetables at the post commissary for coffee and vinegar (:150). Public auctions were held at the commissary, but most of the goods went to townspeople, because the items were sold in quantities too large for soldiers to buy (:167). Wood contracts were awarded to private individuals, but enlisted men would often provide some of the labor (:182).

The civilian population benefitted from the presence of the post, but not all relations were amiable. When the city did not pay the bill for use of the guardhouse, it was not allowed future use (:156). Arguments among locals and

soldiers were not uncommon. Hilleary recalled a drunk soldier who shot a civilian. The captain "... defied them to do anything with the fellow without his consent (:157)."

Nevertheless, as a whole the townspeople and soldiers seemed to get along well. The local newspaper frequently commented on the good conduct of the soldiers. When a downtown Boise theatre operator boasted he himself could whip forty soldiers, his customers refused to patronize his theatre (:179).

Although amiable relations existed with the people of Boise, the Volunteers brought anger from the civilian population when they failed in their role in law enforcement and the suppression of Indian uprisings. One reason that law enforcement was poorly handled by the military here was due to a preoccupation by some officers with personal business ventures. Quartermaster Hughes, like Lugenbeel, obtained town lots in the original survey of Boise. Hughes was also involved in a Boise business. Hughes commented that other officers were involved in or looking into investments in quartz stamping mills and other mining operations in the region. In the same letter, Hughes complained about squatters on original city lots and bemoaned the fact that there was nothing that could be done to keep the squatters out except to build big fences around the lots (Hughes 1864b).

Indian suppression was not well handled by the Volunteers, even though that was one of the primary reasons for the founding of Fort Boise. In the winter and spring of 1864, several detachments of troops left the post on short campaigns, mostly in the Owyhee Region, but none was successful. The small bands of Native Americans easily evaded the soldiers in the desert canyon country (Post Returns, February 1864). In general, the Volunteer troops at Fort Boise did not distinguish themselves as Indian fighters. When the Regulars returned from the Civil War, both the local press and Regular Army officers roundly criticized the efforts of the Volunteers. Nonetheless, the military activities of the Volunteers were not entirely unsuccessful. A treaty with the Shoshoni Indians was achieved in 1864. This treaty created an agreement for mutual use of the Boise Valley by the Indians and the white settlers (ISHSR No. 91).

By the time the Regulars returned in 1866, the post was an integral part of Boise. It provided work for the townspeople, additional customers for the merchants, social status to the community, and local protection. Hilleary stated that in 1866, a growing number of destitute Indians were living near the post. For their own protection, the Governor recommended that they move even closer to the fort (Nelson and Onstad 1965:165). We do not know if they moved closer or exactly where they camped in the vicinity of the post.

It was apparent that the Indian problems in the region were not resolved when the Snake Wars broke out in 1866. It was fortunate that most of the Volunteers had been mustered out by this time and were replaced by regular troops (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1864). The commander at the time of the outbreak was Lieutenant Colonel George Crook. Crook, one of the more notable military figures to be stationed at Fort Boise, built his reputation as a great Indian fighter in Idaho. Crook was scornful of the work done by his predecessors and severely criticized them.

The feeling against him (the former Commander) and many of his officers was very bitter. They were accused of all manner of things. One thing was certain: they had not, nor were they, making much headway against the hostile Indians. There was much dissipation amongst a good many officers, and there seemed to be a general apathy amongst them, an indifference to the proper discharge of duty (Utley 1973:178).

The Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman voiced a similar opinion. When the new troops arrived in April 1866, the paper hoped that they could do a better job of keeping the Indians in check (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1866a).

Almost immediately after arrival, Crook proceeded to begin subduing the Indians. His tactics included the use of Shoshoni Indians (Utley 1973:180) to fight Indians and the employment of mule trains to increase his mobility in the field. Crook began to pursue the Snakes and Paiutes one week after arriving at Fort Boise and did not return for two years. In this two year period, he successfully brought the Snake War to a close.

During Crook's absence, Fort Boise continued to grow in regional importance as well as in physical size. By the late 1860s, Fort Boise was the easternmost post in the Department of the Columbia which was headquartered in Vancouver, Washington. The Boise post was responsible for the garrisoning and supplying of two camps. Both were located to the south of Boise in the Owyhee country. Camp Three Forks was the more southerly camp, located south and west of Boise on the Owyhee River, where the river enters Idaho from Oregon in present day southwestern Idaho. The other camp was Camp Lyon, also situated southwest of Boise, midway between the Snake River and Owyhee River. These two camps were mainly used during the Snake Wars of the late 1860s. This limited use of the two camps explains their short lived occupancy. Lyon was built in 1865 and closed in 1869. Three Forks was built in 1866 and closed in 1871 (Utley 1973:177). The Boise newspaper referred to this area as the Owyhee District, and claimed that in 1867, Fort Boise had become the chief fort of this area (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1867a).

In addition to the camps under Fort Boise's jurisdiction, Fort Boise may occasionally have supplied Fort Harney in south central Oregon. Harney was located almost due west of Boise approximately one hundred and fifty miles. Harney was responsible for Camps Watson and Logan to the north, and Camps Alvord and C. F. Smith to the south. These latter two camps were located in the Owyhee country (Utley 1973:176). Because Boise was close to all of these outposts and was a breadbasket for the area, this may indicate a link of some kind.

During the period when Boise was developing its position within the Columbia District, an increase in building occurred at the post. Construction and building improvements during this period are shown on the 1871 map of the post (Figure 3). The 1871 map is also valuable because it graphically presents floor plans and lists construction materials of the post's buildings in the legend. Several major new buildings, numerous additions and alterations are shown on the 1871 map (Figure 4). New rooms were added to the wings of the officers quarters and one room was added to the commanding officers quarters. The formerly unnamed building south of the officers quarters is shown to be a two room building made of stone and being

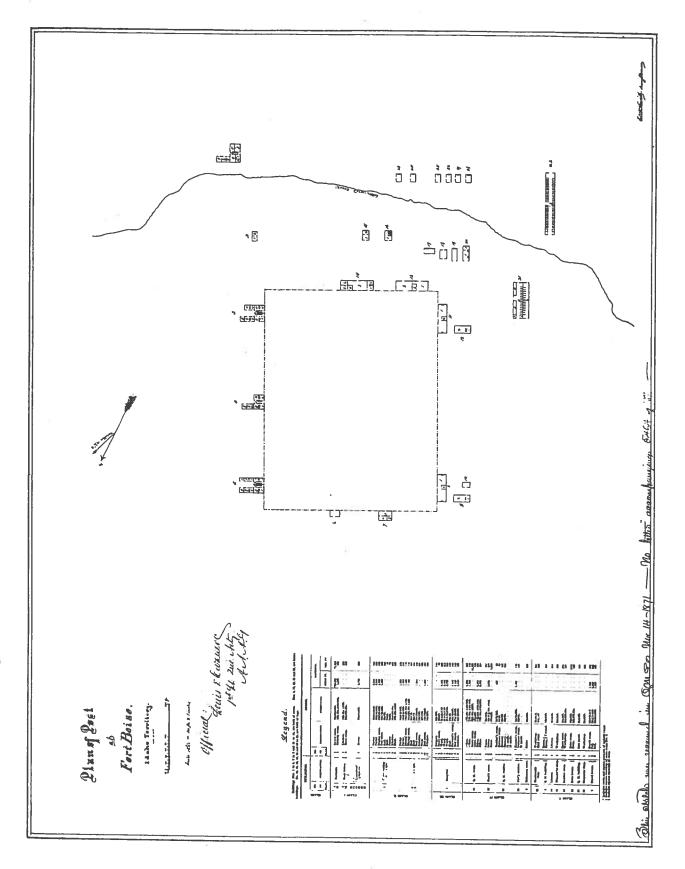


Figure 3. 1871 plan map of Fort Boise, Idaho.

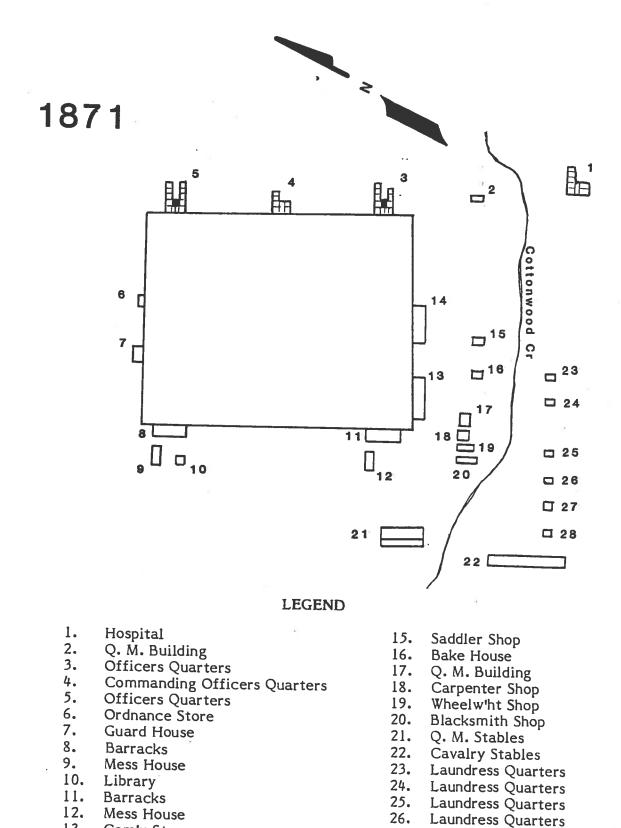


Figure 4. Schematic plan of Fort Boise from 1871 map.

13.

14.

Com'y Store

Quartermaster Store

27.

28.

Laundress Quarters

Laundress Quarters

used as the quarter masters store. The hospital had been rebuilt on its original location and two rooms were present on the northern wing but none was built on the southern wing where there had been one room on the 1866 map.

The building between the quarter masters store and Commissary Store is not present and one of the laundress quarters is gone. A one-room frame building that is designated quarter master building was added to the east of the carpenter shop. A small coal room was added near the south end of the blacksmith shop. The cavalry stable had been shifted to be oriented north-south, rather than east-west as shown on the 1866 map. Seventy five stalls were present in the cavalry stable and 32 were in the quarter master stable. A one room library made of logs had been built near the northern barracks building and mess house. A major contributor to the library was Sergeant Peter Vogel. Vogel was shot and killed in 1869 in a downtown Boise brothel after being ordered to retrieve a soldier. The obituary said that Vogel had auctioned off surplus rations in order to obtain non-regulation luxuries such as books (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1869a).

Fort Boise continued the tradition it had built of being an important social center for the community. The local newspaper contained frequent references to the performances at Fort Boise by a group called the Varities. The Varities were a group of soldiers formed by Sergeant Vogel to put on talent shows for the post and the community. The Varities were billed as a family show, and the post provided transportation from the town to the fort for those desiring to see the show. The Varities did quite a number of Irish routines. The Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman mentioned an Irish Jig and Irish songs being performed (1869b). A look at the 1870 census showed that twenty-two percent of the enlisted soldiers at Boise were from Ireland, as were three of the laundresses; the Sutler was from Scotland (Idaho Territorial Census 1870). The Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman (1875) also announced that a Saint Patrick's Day Service was to be held at the post that year.

Although the Irish seemed to attract local attention, there were quite a few foreign born soldiers at Fort Boise according to the 1870 census. Overall forty-seven percent of the garrison interviewed for the census were foreign born. The only other sizable block was from Germany, amounting to six percent of the soldiers. Ten years later in 1880, foreign born soldiers had increased at the Boise Barracks. At the time, fifty-one percent of the solders interviewed were from outside the United States. The biggest block in 1880 were from the German States. These soldiers made up twenty percent of the garrison. The Irish born still had a strong block as eighteen percent of the garrison had been born in Ireland. During its years, Fort Boise had a strong immigrant air to its garrison.

Twice in the late 1860s the Boise garrison provided law enforcement for the Territorial Governor D. W. Ballard. The first incident involved the Fourth Territorial Legislature. Governor Ballard informed the territorial legislature that each member would have to take an oath of allegiance stating that he had taken no part on the side of the Confederacy during the Civil War and that each was a loyal supporter of the Union. This oath had to be sworn to before they would receive their pay as legislative representatives. The lawmakers protested against taking this oath and destroyed furnishings belonging to the government. Ballard called in federal troops to help quell the uprising. Finally, the lawmakers took the oath, and the incident came to an end.

This was not to be the only time Ballard would have to call in federal troops to help restore order in Idaho. In 1868, a dispute over two mining claims in the Owyhee district led to a shoot out in Silver City. The problem escalated, and Governor Ballard sent ninety-five soldiers from Fort Boise to put an end to the "Owyhee War." The soldiers arrived and occupied Silver City from the fourth to the eighth of April 1868, although the problem had been resolved by the time of their arrival (Wells 1974:42).

By the late 1860s, the troops at Fort Boise had been instrumental in stopping the Snake Indian Wars, and in keeping peace in Boise and Silver City. The town became more supportive of the post, especially when there was talk of abandoning the fort. These rumors were common throughout the post's existence. One of the earliest references to abandonment was in 1866 when journalists for the Statesman suggested that if the post was to be abandoned, the buildings should be given to the territorial government for its use (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1866b). In 1868, Governor D. W. Ballard proposed that the federal government give Fort Boise to the territory. The counter argument presented in the local newspapers was that the buildings were unsuited for use as a state capitol or a penitentiary, that the site was too far out of town to be useful, that the garrison was needed for Indian protection, and that the federal government would not appropriate as much money for territorial buildings in the future if they received Fort Boise now (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1868). The legislature also opposed the idea for similar reasons.

The post remained tied economically to the local community. Fort Boise continued to buy supplies from the growing community. Newspaper advertisements for bids being let by the Quartermaster to supply beef, hay, grain, flour, and wood were common, along with advertisements to supply outlying military camps in the area (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1867a, b, c).

By the 1870s, Fort Boise was important to the citizens of Boise and it continued to be important to the United States Army. Idaho was still on the frontier, which became apparent in the late 1870s when Indian wars flared up throughout the western United States. Through the years 1877-1879, a series of Indian wars occurred in Idaho, the Bannock War of 1878, the Sheepeater Indian War of 1879 and the Nez Perce War of 1877 (Utley 1973:329-330). Fort Boise played a major role in each of these campaigns. The post provided men, provisions, and a jumping off point for incoming soldiers (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1877). During the campaigns, the garrison at Boise dwindled to seventeen men, but civilian employment picked up. Most of the latter were involved with the supply trains being sent into the field. General Oliver O. Howard, who commanded the Army effort against the Nez Perce, established his headquarters at Boise in June of 1875 (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1876).

Fort Boise, at the beginning of the 1880s, became an installation of less importance to the Army, but it was still considered important to the local community. After the campaigns of the late 1870s, the Indian threat had been subdued regionally as well as nationally. The first transcontinental railroad had been completed in 1869, and others would be completed in the 1880s. Most important to the Boise Barracks was the Oregon Shortline completed in 1884. This railroad originated in Granger, Wyoming and ended in Huntington, Oregon. Its route passed near Boise and gave the military garrisoned at Boise access to the railroad (Athearn 1971:317-318).

The Indian threat in Idaho, for all practical purposes, was over. One would expect Fort Boise at this time to be gradually phased out. In 1878, the newspapers, concerned perhaps over its possible closure, espoused the advantages of Fort Boise. These were: its central location, its proximity to good transportation, the availability of good agricultural supplies, and its economical operation (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1878). Another ominous sign was a letter printed in the April 1, 1879 Statesman stating that the Department of the Columbia had no money so that grain allotments to non-working animals would be cut back, unnecessary use of goods was suspended, unserviceable animals were to be auctioned off, a general inventory was to be taken, and the Commanding Officer was to carefully parcel out goods. Finally, no more deliveries were to be accepted (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1879a).

Instead of closing, building at Fort Boise continued in the early 1880s. The reason for this is not readily discernible from the available literature. One possibility was the building of the Sonna Reservoir in 1880. Peter Sonna, a Boise entrepreneur who had moved to the Boise Basin in 1862, built the reservoir, located on the hill above officers row, in an attempt to keep the Boise Barracks from moving (Idaho Daily Statesman 1907). Sonna Reservoir provided Fort Boise with an updated waterworks system. Soldiers constructed the pipelines to the barracks (Post Returns, Dec. 1880). Cottonwood Reservoir, located about three miles above the post, was built during the same period. Water was piped from it into Sonna Reservoir. Along with the two reservoirs, a canal and retaining wall were constructed to alter the course of Cottonwood Creek to the east of the post (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1881a, b). Other features of the fort's water diversion system, drawn on the 1884 map (Figure 5), included a new watering pond and trough system near the stable area, a small reservoir east of the commanding officers quarters and a well to the west of the guardhouse.

Another odd thing that occurred was that less than one month after the "no money" letter was published, the newspaper mentioned that a new military storehouse, twenty seven feet by one hundred feet was to be built on the post. In addition, the Fort's name was changed to Boise Barracks in 1879 (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1879b).

Other improvements of fort buildings included the enlargement of the cavalry quarters. This addition was perpendicular to the older barrack. Pictures of the barracks in the Idaho State Museum files shows the addition to be of frame construction (Figures 6 and 7). Also a company wash house was added to the barracks complex. The largest change occurred at the infantry barracks. The barracks had not increased in size, but the complex now had a wash house and a root cellar. In addition, a First Sergeants house was added to the infantrymens complex.

The library near the infantry barracks on the 1871 map was moved into a new structure on the north side of the parade grounds. It was now called the schoolhouse and library. The fact that the post now had a schoolhouse signaled social change at the post. In the 1870 census there were twelve school age children on the post. This might have been the reason for the creation of a school. It is not known whether the soldiers partook in school or not. The presence of a school would indicate an ever increasing change of the Boise Basin from a frontier area to a community. In the 1880 census, the number of school age children had dropped from twelve to just five.

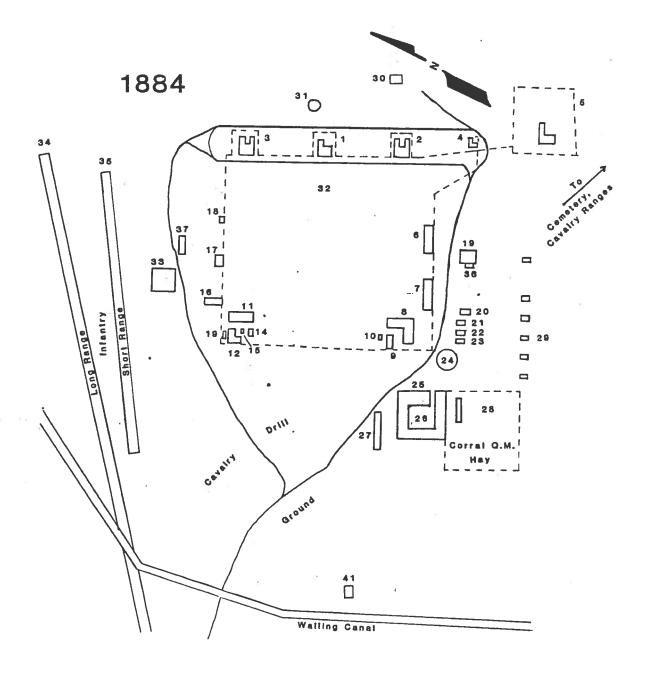


Figure 5. Schematic plan of Boise Barracks from an 1884 map.

Comdg Officer's Q'trs Single Com'd'g Off's Q'trs Double
Surgeon Q'trs Single Post Hospital
Adj Off. & Q. M. Store
Com'y Store
Cav'y Q'trs
Cav'y Mess & Wash H.
Inf'ty Co. Q'trs
Inf'ty Mess & Wash H.
lst Serg'ts House

15.	Root House
16.	Post Lib. & School
17.	Guard House
18.	Ord Store House
19.	Comm'y Serg't Q'trs.
20.	Blacksmith Q'trs
21.	Carpenter Q'trs
22,23.	Shed & Troop Farrier
24.	Pond & Watering
	Trough
25.	Cav'y Stable
26.	Bakery

27.	Picket Line
28.	Q. M. Hay Corral
29.	Laundress Q'trs
30.	Ice House
31.	Reservoir
32.	Flag Staff
33.	Q. M. Woodyard
34,35	,38,39 Targets
	Bakery
37.	Sawmill

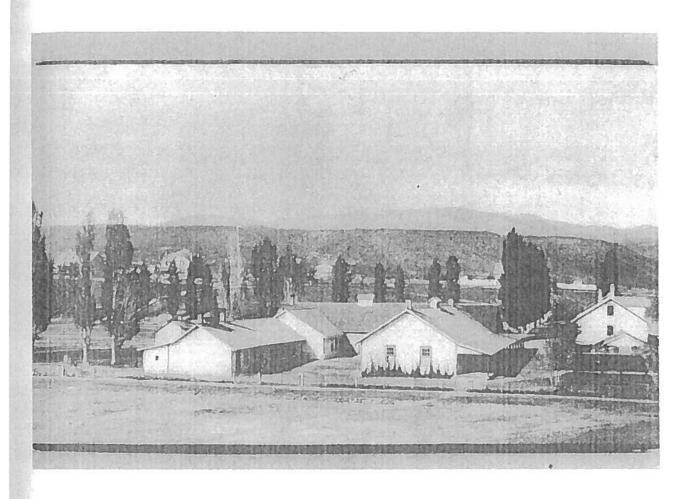


Figure 6. The cavalry barracks (Building 12), ca. 1900. View is to the northeast. Photo is from the Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

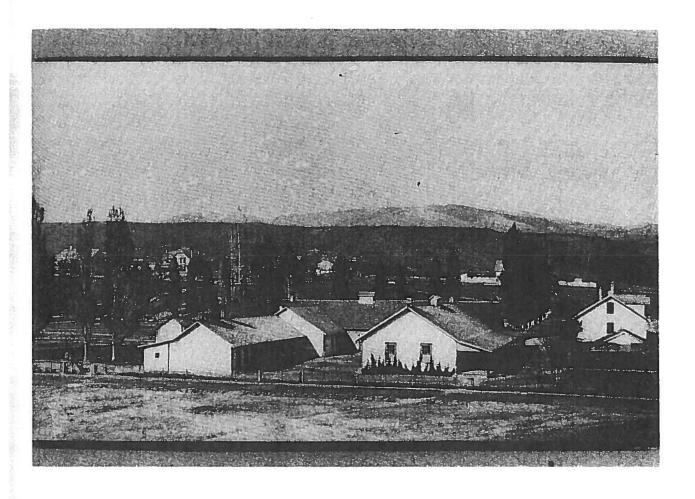


Figure 6. The cavalry barracks (Building 12), ca. 1900. View is to the northeast. Photo is from the Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

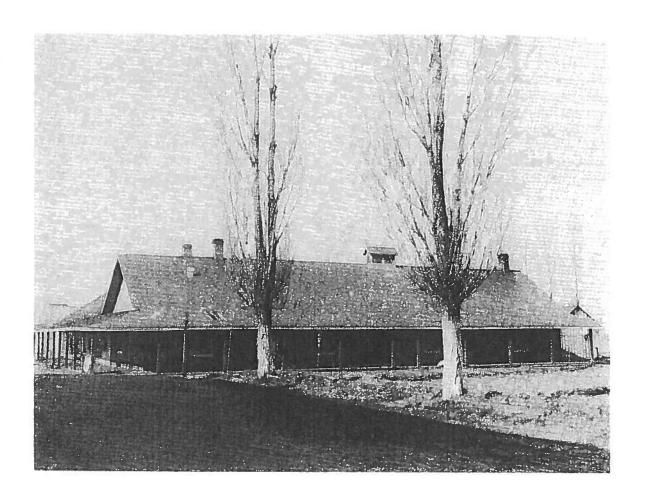


Figure 7. The cavalry barracks, Building 12, ca. 1890. View is to the west. Photo is from the Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

Other changes included the apparent enlargement of the parade ground, the mapping of roads throughout the barracks area, the first appearance of firing ranges, a company garden, a cemetery, and cavalry drill grounds. Several new but unnamed buildings appeared. One of the laundress quarters was gone but a new one replaced the one that was missing on the 1871 map. The cavalry stable was apparently rebuilt as it had appeared on the 1866 map and the stable is included in a fenced area that is labeled "Corral Q. M. Hay." The commissary store house had apparently been added onto by this time (Figure 8).

Unlike the 1870 census, the 1880 census showed the makeup of the Fort's social situation to be changing. For example, in 1870 there were only five families on the post and only two of these were army families, both belonging to officers (Idaho Territorial Census 1870). Comparatively in 1880 the post had nine families living on the base. Of these nine, four were officer's families, four were enlisted men's families and one was the post surgeon's family (Idaho Territorial Census 1880). Three of the officers had servants in their households. This change in personal lifestyle reflected the fact that Boise was no longer a remote frontier post, and it was becoming more of a city (Idaho Geneological Society 1976:124-128).

Information about the barracks is scanty after 1884. Because the military did nothing but garrison the post and perform daily routines, information from post returns is slight. Newspaper articles indicate that Fort Boise continued to be a social gathering place for the city (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1885).

The city continued to be very supportive of the installation. In 1888, the Statesman (1888a, b) called for an increase of the barracks from two companies to six. They felt that the post brought about 50,000 dollars of revenue per year to the city, and that an increase in the garrison would triple this amount to 150,000 dollars. The Boise City Board of Trade passed a resolution to this same effect. In forwarding the resolution to his superior, the post commander, Major W. H. Powell, stated that the post was in dire need of repairs. He argued that no upkeep had taken place for twenty-four years and that attention needed to be paid to post upkeep. The officers quarters had slumping doors, warped windows, and rotting timbers. There existed no modern conveniences such as vented heating and bathing facilities. He contended that Fort Boise was worth keeping intact because it occupied a critical geographical location only one day by train from Salt Lake City or Portland, and only two and one half day by train from San Francisco (Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman 1888a, b).

An 1896 map of Boise Barracks (Figure 9) shows a pipeline that was to connect a new reservoir southeast of the officers row with Sonna Reservoir, which is just east and north of the northernmost officers quarters. The same map also showed that a fence was to be built along the west side of the post just west of the Walling Canal. Although the map is incomplete in that it does not show any barracks or many other structures that were present before and are shown on subsequent maps, the map shows the addition of several structures. A new T-shaped building was present to the north of the commanding officers quarters. A new barn/stable complex was added west of the original stable complex. The new area doubled the stable area and more than doubled the fenced in area where livestock were kept. An additional building was shown west of the post complex just east of the Walling Canal. Photographs of the post provide another perspective on the appearance of the various structures and their juxtaposition (Figures 10 and 11).

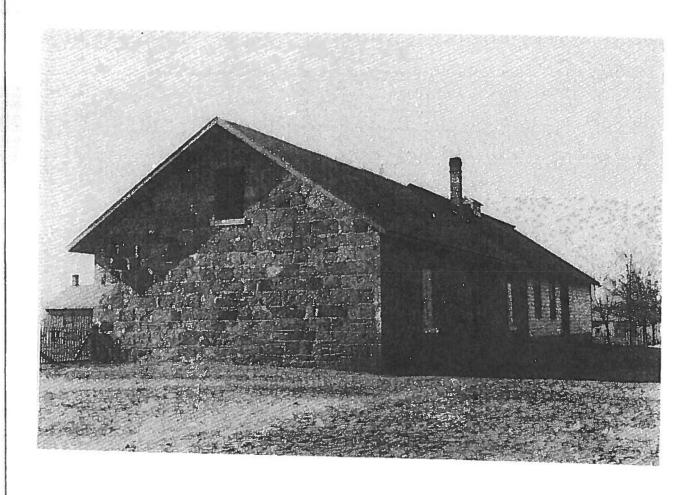


Figure 8. The commissary storehouse, Building 7, ca. 1890. Photo is from the Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

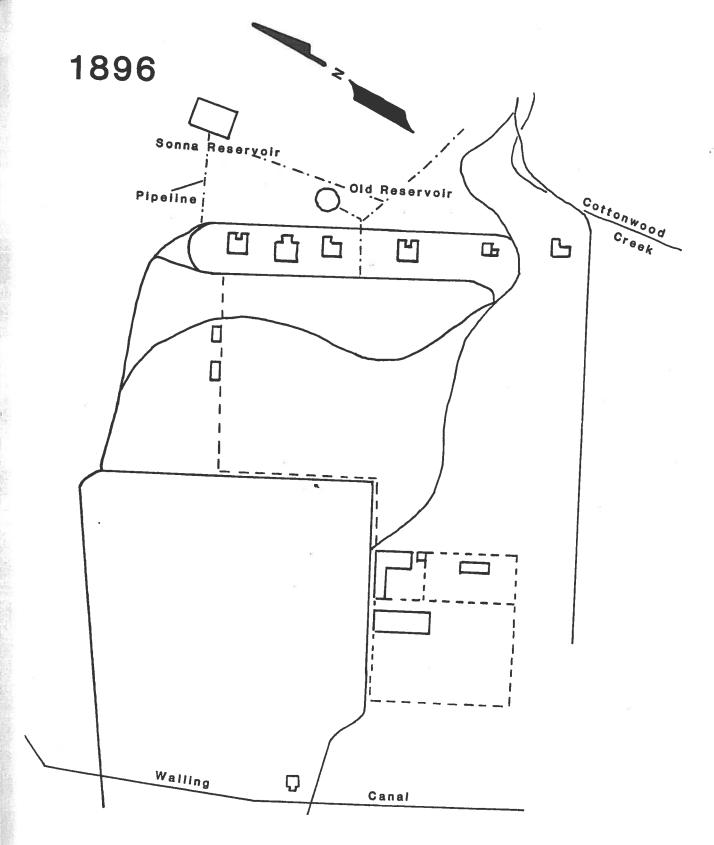


Figure 9. Schematic plan of Boise Barracks from an 1896 map. No structures are labeled on map.

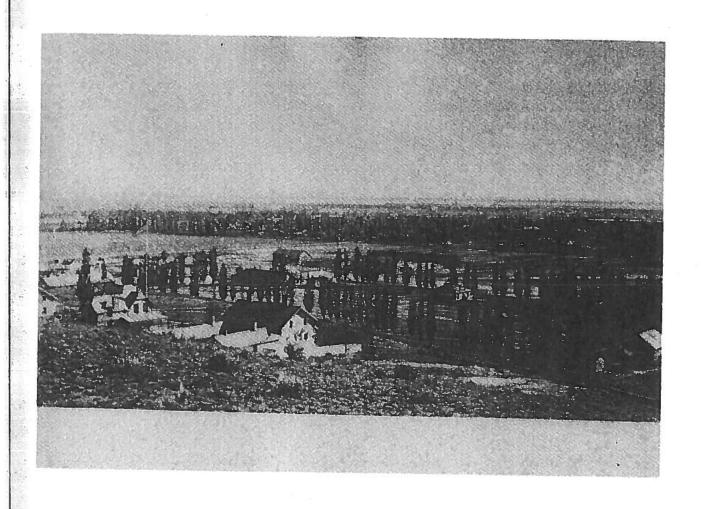


Figure 10. View of the Post, ca. 1890s, looking to southwest from hill above Post. Photo is from the Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

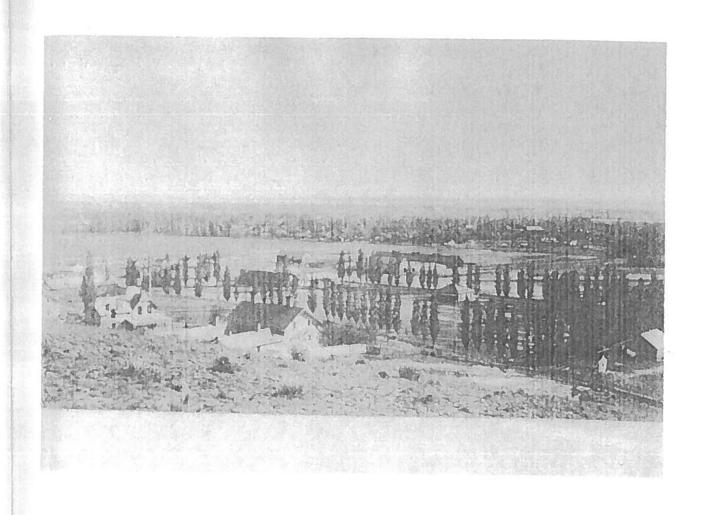


Figure 10. View of the Post, ca. 1890s, looking to southwest from hill above Post. Photo is from the Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

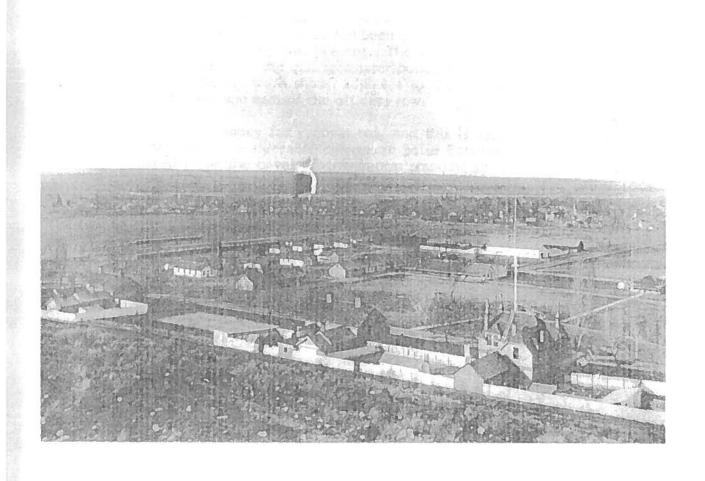


Figure 11. View of Boise Barracks, ca. 1890, from hills behind the Post. View is to south-southwest. Photo is from Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

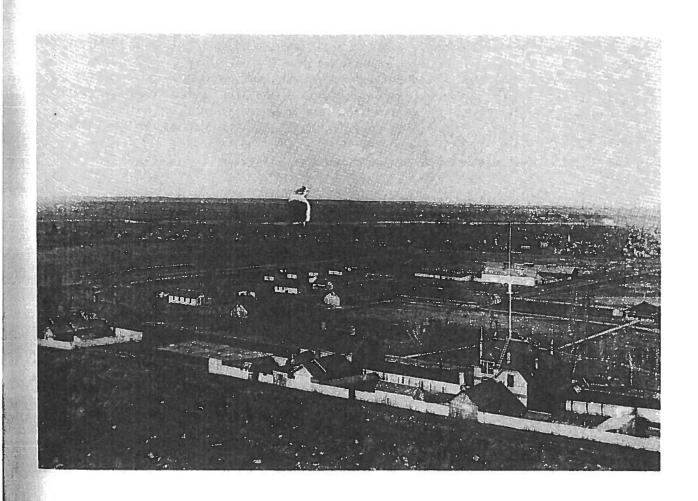


Figure 11. View of Boise Barracks, ca. 1890, from hills behind the Post. View is to south-southwest. Photo is from Idaho Historical Society Collection, Boise.

An October 19, 1904 map of Boise Barracks (Figure 12) was prepared under the direction of Major R. B. Turner, 8th Infantry, Constructing Quartermaster. The map shows that an additional officers quarters and additions to the stable area had been made. In addition, the quartermaster building on the 1871 map had become one of the officers quarters. Additions were made to both enlisted mens barracks and the new building between them was the administration building. The saddlery had been enlarged and became the post exchange. The laundress quarters had been converted to married mens quarters. A sawmill was built at the east end of the married mens quarters. A coal house had been added and the wheelwright shop was removed. The carpenter shop was present. The blacksmith shop had been closed and its function moved into the quartermaster building that was shown on the 1871 map. Several outbuildings were shown adjacent to the post exchange, bakery, the married mens quarters and east of the officers row.

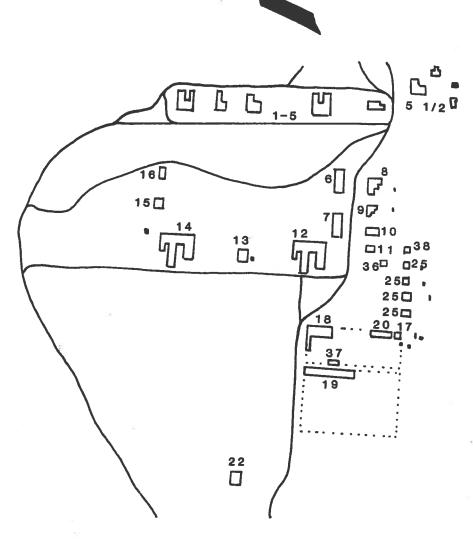
The post did receive money for renovations, and this is reflected in a 1907 map (Figure 13) that shows considerable change at Boise Barracks. The main area of growth appeared to be the cavalry barns shown standing to the south and west of the main post area. One of these barns is still standing on the hospital grounds today and has been turned into a supply warehouse. Two tack shops were associated with the barns. In addition, a large area of the post, to the south of the parade ground, was marked as a cavalry parade ground. This area had previously been used as a post garden.

The other major change was an increase in the size and variety of living quarters. The two old barracks had been enlarged, and a new barracks to accommodate seventy-five men had been built to the north of the infantry barracks. Three officers quarters had been added to officers row. Also, some non-commissioned officer housing was available. The post had added a gymnasium for recreational purposes and the post exchange housed the library.

One possible explanation for the growth in the physical plant of Boise Barracks was that along with the investment already put into the grounds, the post was close enough to the Pacific coast to serve a useful purpose. The United States had recently become more active militarily in the Pacific Ocean. They had fought a war in the Phillipines and were expanding relations with the Orient at the turn of the Twentieth Century. Boise was only one day from Portland on the west coast, so it could have been a good place to train troops. Also, the Army had used the post for convalescing soldiers from the Spanish American War. In 1909, troops from Boise were moved to the Phillipines.

The Army moved out of the Barracks in 1913, although the post continued to be used by the Army and the Idaho National Guard for training activities (Wells 1982:85). By 1927, Boise Barracks had been altered significantly as it had become a hospital. New buildings had been added to the hospital. The post exchange-library, bakery, coal house, sawmill and married mens barracks were no longer present. The stable complex had been removed and the two original enlisted men's barracks had been modified and incorporated into L-shaped complexes. The administration building was enlarged. None of the original buildings, except possibly for the carpenter shop, guardhouse and ordnance store house, remained in

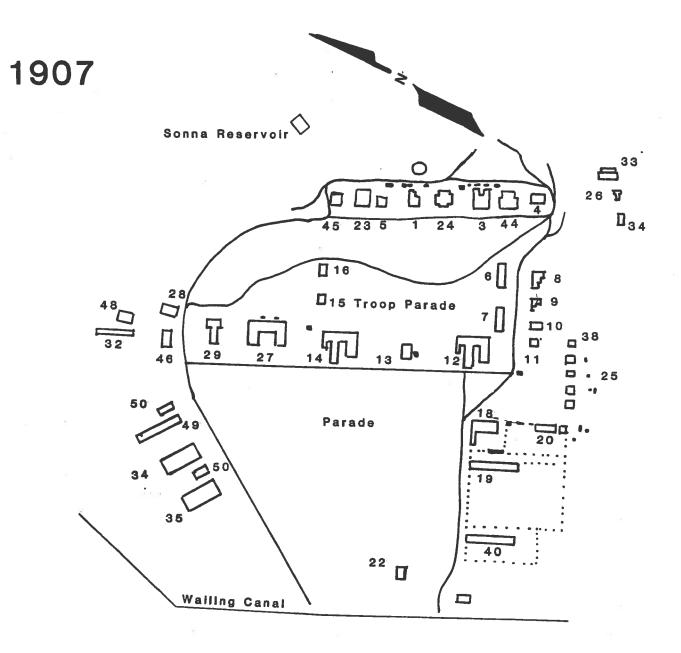
1904



LEGEND

1-5	Officers Quarters	16.	Ordinance Storehouse
51/2	Hospital	17.	Granary
6.	Quartermasters Storehouse	18.	Quartermasters Store
7.	Subsistence Storehouse	19.	Cavalry Stable
8.	Post Exchange	20.	Hay Shed
9.	Bake Shop	22.	Non-com. Staff Quarters
10.	Blacksmith Shop	25.	Married Mens Quarters
11.	Carpenter Shop	26.	Hospital Stewards Quarters
12 &		36.	Coal House
14	Barracks	37	Stable Guard House
13	Administration	38	Saw Mill
15.	Guard House	39	Oil House

Figure 12. Schematic plan of Boise Barracks from a 1904 map.



LEGEND

1. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15.	Single Officers Double Officers Single Officers Com. Officer Q. Office & Store Comcy I Office & Store Ho. Post Exchange & Library Bakery Blk'smith Shop Carpenter Shop Barracks Admin. Bldg. Barracks Guard Ho Ord. Store Ho.	18. 19. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 32. 34. 34.	Q.M. Stables Cavalry Stables Non-Com Staff Qtrs. Capts. Qrs. Lieuts. Qrs. Married Mens Qrs. Hosp. Sergt. Barracks Guard Ho Post Exchange & Gym Coal Shed Hospital Hospital Sergts. Qrs. Cavalry Stable	38. 40. 44. 45. 46. 48. 49. 50.	Sawmill Temp. Cavalry Stable 4 Set Off. Qrs. Field Office Bakery Granary Cavalry Stable Stable Guard Shop
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Calvary Stable

Figure 13. Schematic plan of Boise Barracks from an 1907 map.

35.

their 1866 configuration and function. The quartermaster buildings (storehouses in 1927) had the same external configuration but had served several functions. Other original buildings that remained included two officers quarters, the commanding officers quarters, Possibly the hospital and the quartermaster building from the 1871 map.

Fort Boise had played a major role in the development of the city of Boise and in the regional development of western Idaho. The post stopped the Indian problems in the Boise Valley and allowed the city of Boise to prosper. Settlement would have occurred in the Boise Valley at some time because of the variety of resources available in the valley, however, Boise might not have become Idaho's capital if Fort Boise had not prompted the founding of the city in July of 1863. If settlement had come later, Lewiston, the original territorial capitol, would most likely have strengthened its claim as capitol. Such a claim might not have been wrested from the north Idaho community at a later date. Fort Boise's main role in Idaho history occurred between 1863 and 1880 when it served as security for the new settlers of Idaho.

SUMMARY

The history of Fort Boise/Boise Barracks provides a variety of perspectives from which to view the archaeological potential and ultimately significance of the post. These different viewpoints bring with them a wide range of archaeological remains, some of which are clearly indicated by the history and others which are barely inferred from the history or from the results of historic investigations elsewhere. The different topical areas include the built environment, the natural landscape, areas where different activities were carried out, and artifacts. These are summarized below. It would be well to point out here that the purpose of the testing which is described in the following chapter was primarily to locate the foundations of major buildings and not to attempt to address all of the research topics which are discussed below and which were recognized as potentially being addressable at Fort Boise/Boise Barracks.

The historic built environment is the most prominent part of the Fort Boise complex and these resources have been so recognized that they have been used to designate it as a National Register site. The history of Fort Boise traces the growth of the fort and the changes in structures, the addition and removal of structures, as well as overall changes in the function of the facility from 1863 to These changes are focused upon the size and configuration of individual structures but little information is available about the construction materials, the architectural styles, the foundation types, and other structural features. For example we do not know what adobes were used for although they were reportedly made at the site. Particularly lacking is information on the functional structures, such as blacksmith shop, in terms of their construction. Were the frame buildings built around posts that were sunk into the ground? Were the log buildings made of log cabin style or were they constructed of vertical posts such as reported at Camp Willow Grove Arizona (Skinner 1968) which was built at the same time? Moreover, we do not know how buildings were demolished and materials disposed of or salvaged. Little information is presented about the internal features that were present in the buildings. This would be important with regard to reconstructing the burned hospital which was described on the 1866 map

of the post. Without internal information it would be difficult to reconstruct the patterns of artifact occurrence as has been done at other burned and abandoned forts in the Western United States.

While information is limited about the major structures of the built environment, there are an untold number of structures which are not depicted on the earlier maps but which certainly were important in the day-to-day activities of the post. The most prominent of these structures is the outhouse or privy. Most certainly such structures were constructed behind the barracks and officers quarters but they are not shown on the early maps. The same is true about such structures as cellars, dumps, and probably other structures which occur at similar posts. Not only are they missing cartographically, description of their construction is missing. Likewise missing from the early maps are locations of such temporary campsites as those of the Volunteers who lived in tents while building the post, the workmen who were civilians and participated in the construction, and the Indians who camped in the vicinity of the post. While some of these areas may be outside the present VAMC boundary, it is important to document these features regardless of their location on or off the VAMC property.

The natural landscape has been largely taken for granted and there is little description of its original configuration and how it has been reshaped. We are aware that Cottonwood Creek passed through the post and was subsequently rechanneled to avoid the post. What we do not know is where the fill placed in the original channel came from. Was the old channel used as a dump for military trash, and how was the channel filling accomplished? Was the parade ground leveled at any point in the past and was it necessary to regularly add fill to maintain a level surface to it in the face of repeated disturbance and compaction by foot and hoof traffic? As the fort changed its functions, was there more effort to maintain a grassy landscape, were trees planted, and what other major and minor disturbances affected the ground surface? If there have been major grade changes, they may have preserved or destroyed different parts of the post.

The history documents only one major and definable activity area in the site, the parade ground. The limits of this area are definable but we do not know just what activities, besides 'parading' and review, went on within the parade ground. Historic research suggests that work areas should be expected behind the quarters and particularly the barracks. We can anticipate that evidence of military gear repair will be found behind the barracks as might evidence of cooking activities associated with the mess. Such activities might be found in the form of broadcast trash adjacent to work areas but we do not know if these areas were regularly swept of their trash. Similar activity areas are to be expected at support facilities such as the sawmill, bakery, blacksmith shop, and other such features. The residue that occurred in each of these areas must have been disposed in a regular manner but the records are quiet about the patterns. We are aware that a dump has been located on the post behind building 28 but also that a military dump is located less than a kilometer from the post. Was all trash normally carried off to designated dumps or was some of it placed in gullies as it was at Willow Grove, Arizona or scattered on river banks as at Fort Concho, Texas?

Material culture is the last major topic which deserves mention here because over the course of more than half a century, Fort Boise/Boise Barracks was involved in major economic, social, and technological changes. Major changes went on with regard to military armaments, uniforms, units, and other aspects of a purely military nature. During this period significant changes happened in the packaging of foods and other personal items. Technological changes ranged from the introduction of the train to the appearance of the car and from handmade metal objects to mass-produced items sold through catalogs. Western America became actively involved in a national and international interaction sphere which would have brought many exotic items and ideas to Fort Boise. These changes can be deduced from historical literature but the historic overview is largely silent about them.

An awareness of these possibilities and limitations was available as testing began to locate structures of Fort Boise/Boise Barracks in the summer of 1983. However, the testing was focused primarily on locating foundations and the methodology used was recognized as not likely to be able to answer many of these questions. Moreover, the non-collecting policy that had been selected meant that a mass of artifacts would not be secured.

Building

Building 37 (1884) Sawmill

Building 30 (1884 map) Ice House

Reason Not Tested

lies under loading platform and road behind Building 77.

lies outside VAMC property.

Summary

In sum, all or portions of six'former buildings and three historic features (possible privies, root cellar behind Building 14 and the old reservoir) were tested during the present project. In addition, the entire VAMC grounds were surveyed. This resulted in the location of two areas where sandstone building blocks were dumped, a 19th century refuse dump, the possible foundation of an old livestock pen, a segment of a possible historic irrigation canal, the remnant stone wall of a coal house, the probable location of the oil house, and an isolated prehistoric flake.

Probe testing of the buildings and features seldom resulted in fully identifying building perimeters or in establishing the integrity of cultural deposits or structural remains. Rather, it often provided information supporting the predicted location and existence of various structural remains and features. It was determined that portions of two officers quarters (Buildings 3, 5), the commissary store, the saddlery/post exchange (Building 8) and the cavalry barracks (Building 2) as well as the old reservoir and post dump are still present to some extent. Little or no evidence was uncovered of the infantry barracks, (Building 14), the guard house (Building 15), the ordnance store (Building 16), or the garbage house (Building 62) nor of privy locations behind the officers quarters, although the latter received only minimal test probing.

IV. MANAGEMENT PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The site of Fort Boise/Barracks has previously been recognized as a significant cultural resource on the basis of historical and architectural factors. These have been used as the basis for listing the site on the National Register of Historic Places. The historic overview which is presented above further develops the historical significance of the post and traces the construction, growth and changes in the post's use over time and in space. The standing structures that remain from this historic period have been recognized by State and Federal agencies as being significant. Review of the historic maps and subsequent limited testing have shown that some of the major buildings or evidence of these buildings lies buried under lawns, roads, sidewalks, and other buildings. In addition, testing and research has revealed that there are probably many work areas, refuse dumps, outbuildings and other evidence of historic occupation at Fort Boise/Boise Barracks that do not appear on maps. These "lesser" remains have a potentially significant contribution to make to understanding the many historic events that occurred at the military post during its half century of use on the Western frontier.

The present condition of Fort Boise/Boise Barracks is similar to that of many other forts and posts in the west as well as by many other historic sites including missions, hotels, homes, offices, etc. What remains of many such sites are several substantial buildings which may have been adaptively "reused" or incorporated into construction programs, or so modified as to retain very little integrity. In addition to the preserved structures at Fort Boise, there are numerous other buildings, features and artifact patterns which have not been recognized or recorded but which have as much to contribute to a complete history of the post as do the standing structures. Consequently, it is important that all of these resources be considered when developing a management plan that is responsive to the concerns of the National Register and is going to adequately preserve these bits of history that will be lost forever if not investigated when they are threatened by construction and land modification.

The primary management policy followed by the VA is that of avoidance. This policy is effective as long as a good foundation is available about the buried archaeological remains that are known or may be present. This is not presently the case at the VAMC, and as many undocumented features are likely to be discovered by surface disturbances it is important that a watchful eye is maintained on future construction. At VAMC Boise, we can anticipate that over the course of time, new buildings will be built and older buildings will be renovated, utilities will be buried in trenches and parking areas will be developed and repaired. Additional landscaping will also occur. Each of these activities may uncover significant resources and the purpose of the following is to highlight those areas where buried features are likely to be encountered during construction. Using this information, it will be possible to develop a program of monitoring and testing to adequately evaluate the historic significance of resources at the VAMC.

VAMC Boise presently contains only part of the original Fort Boise/Boise Barracks area and it is only that area with which the following discussion deals. This means that the original hospital location, all structures south of the original Cottonwood Creek channel, the stables, and the row of frame and log structures south of the quartermaster store and commissary, except for the saddlery are excluded.

A variety of material culture, activities and structures have bearing upon the research potential of Fort Boise but we have chosen to structure the following presentation by using the major standing structures which are or were present on the VAMC property. This format provides the easiest means of moving from a specific location on the post to the research potentials of the structures and their related features and material culture. This then leads to the management recommendations which are presented. This information is detailed in Table 8. Where possible, abbreviations are used to make the table more readable. Further amplification is presented in the text. Table 8 begins with Structure 1 which was the commanding officers quarters on the 1866 map of Fort Boise.

Table 8 deals with those structural and activity areas which relate to the history of Fort Boise/Boise Barracks through the period 1904 as shown on the map for that year. We have very limited information about military activity at the post after 1904 and between 1904 and 1907 there were many structures added which appear to have drastically changed the arrangement of the post. Because these recent structures are largely intact and are primarily of frame construction, unlike the earlier structures, we have not included them in this-discussion. We have found that the military history of the post that is of primary importance was the period from 1863 through the 1880s. We do not believe that the period after 1904 was a great deal of interest from a cultural resource management perspective even though some of the structures are more than 50 years old.

The table presents the original designation and then comments on structural changes, demolition is noted and the date(s) given. This is followed by the present number assigned to extant structures. Suggestions are offered about structural remains and outbuildings that might be associated with each structure and then the research domains that relate to the different structures are indicated. It should be noted that several particularistic research topics mentioned in the overview summary are not reported here. This is followed by a column that lists management recommendations and lastly by a column in which the suggested significance ranking of each structure is listed. Significance ranking is done on a scale of 1 to 5 where 5 is the most significant ranking and 1 is the least significant. The rankings are assigned on the basis of historic information, the results of the limited testing, and an overall evaluation of the structure within the resource base present at the VAMC.

Privies are expected to occur at most if not all of the living quarters as well as with those work-related structures where troops may have worked for a goodly part of a day. Privies have long been considered to be an important source of vertical stratification in historic archaeological sites as well as a source of information on discard patterns, economic change, and social status. Privies do not appear on the post maps until 1904. We are confident that this was not the first time that sanitary facilities were used. In fact, it is most likely that numerous privy locations were constructed behind every living quarter at Fort Boise/Boise Barracks for the period from 1863 through the early 1900s.

Table 8. Summary of historic structure (feature) locations and the ancillary features, research domains, management recommendations, and significance rankings for Fort Boise/Boise Barracks through 1904.

Original Designation and Condition	Present Building Number	Ancillary Facilities	Research Domains	Manage- ment Recommen- dations	Signifi- cance Ranking
Commanding Officers Quarters Extant/Enlarged	. 1	A(?),C(?), F,P(?)	A,P,CH, SH,TN	RR,TB, MC,PI	4
Officers Quarters - North Demolished 1904-07	U	A(?),C(?), F,P(?)	AP,CH SH,TN	MC	3
Officers Quarters – South Demolished 1961	U	A(?),C(?), F,P(?)	AP,CH, SH,TN	MC	3
Officers Quarters - North of CO Demolished after 1927	U	A(?),F(?), P(?)	AP,SH	TF,TB, MC	2
Administration Extant	13	A,P(?)	-	MC .	1
Quartermasters Building Extant/Enlarged	4	A,F,P(?)	AP,TN	тв,мс	4
Quartermasters Store Extant/Original	6	A,P(?)	AP,CH, TN	RR,TB, MC	4
Quartermasters Office Demolished before 1871	U	F(?),P(?)	AP	TF,MC	2
Commissary Store Demolished after 1927	U	A,F(?),P(?)	CH,TN	TF,TB, MC	3
Company Quarters - South Demolished after 1927	U	A,C,F(?),P(?)	AP,CH SH,TN	TF,TB, MC	3
Company Mess - South Demolished	U	A,F(?)	AP,SH, TN	TF,TB, MC	3
Company Quarters - North Demolished after 1927	U	A,F(?),P(?)	AP,CH, SH,TN	TF,TB, MC	3

Table 8. (Continued)

Original Designation and Condition	Present Building Number	Ancillary Facilities	Research Domains	Manage- ment Recommen- dations	Signifi- cance Ranking
Company Mess – North Demolished	U	A,F(?)	AP,SH, TN	TF,TB, MC	3
Library Demolished after 1884	U	P(?)	AP	TF,MC	2
Guard House Demolished 1938	U	A,F(?),P(?)	AP	TF,TB,	2
Parade Ground	Ŭ	A(?)	AP	MC	2
Old Reservoir	U	Α	AP	МС	1
Sonna Reservoir	30	A	ĀP	MC	= <u>1</u>

KEY

A = Activity Areas
AP = Activity Patterning
C = Cellar

CH = Material Culture Changes

D = Dump
F = Foundations
MC = Monitor Construction

P = Privy(s)

PI = Public Interpretation
RR = Restore/Rehabilitate Standing Structure
SH = Social Hierarchy
TB = Test for Buried Freatures
TF = Test for Foundations

TN = Trade Networks

U = Unnumbered

Other subterranean structures are known to occur with some of the older structures, particularly the south company quarters. We expect that similar structures are present in association with other living quarters, particularly where a large number of individuals were housed or where rank provided the justification for such construction. We predict that recognizable activity will be found associated with the barracks and with the work areas associated with the quartermaster store and the commissary. They may also be associated with the officers row but we expect that they will be less preserved in these locations if they were of sufficient duration to have left a recognizable occupation surface.

We expect that unrecorded external features and structures will be uncovered throughout the post as construction is carried out. These features and stuctures will include trash dumps, building material dumps, wells or cisterns, roadways, artifact caches, burned building foundations, undocumented storage structures, fences, and others. The locations of these resources cannot be effectively predicted at this time other than to say that they are expected to occur primarily in those areas where people congregated or which were set aside for specific purposes.

The various topics listed as Research Domains have been developed based on the history of the site and by using historic archaeological literature to amplify the domains. These domains are not inclusive of all research problems that might be addressed at the post but serve to illustrate the variety of subjects that might be addressed using the resources that are believed to be present. Several research domains are outlined below as being of particular interest to the archaeology of Fort Boise/Boise Barracks. The first has to do with reconstructing horizontal and functional activity patterns. This domain is both synchronic and diachronic in nature although the relative low intensity of occupation may make the diachronic nature of the domain difficult to explore. Artifact discard patterns within the site area should reflect the travel patterns that were commonly used by the troops and support personnel. Whether walking or riding, the discard of expended munitions, broken belongings, and other trash is expected to define the limits of transport routes (Mobley 1976). Such routes will be difficult to outline and will take considerable amount of time in order to recover sufficient quantitative information for verification.

Work and living areas should be definable based on presence or absence of artifacts in relation to structures (see Combes 1964). We expect that in tent camps artifacts will be found present around the edges of the tent while in floored structures, artifacts will be found under the floor where they were lost and outside of the structure in areas where specific tasks were regularly and repeatedly carried out. Activity areas should include spots where guns were cleaned, horses were shoed, food was prepared, target practice was carried out, and other such areas which are attributed to a specific task and would have left a tangible artifactual Discard areas at Fort Boise have already received some limited investigation and in fact have been disturbed by relic collectors who recognize their importance. Elsewhere, such areas have been reconstructed through investigations at sites including Fort Concho, Texas (Mobley 1976; Cheek 1977), Camp Willow Grove, Arizona (Skinner 1968), Silcott, Washington (Adams, Gaw, and Leonhardy 1975:65-75), Fort Sill, Oklahoma (Ferring 1978; Crouch 1978; Spivey, Ferring, Crouch and Franklin 1977:25-166), Custer Road, Michigan (Brose 1967),

and others. The potential for defining activity areas is limited by on the amount of landscaping that has occurred at the site.

The description of social hierarchy or social ranking at Fort Boise is the second topic of interest with potential for concrete answers. Through the use of disposable goods, remains of uniforms, rifles, food stuffs, bottles (Toulouse 1970), personal items, and other material culture items recovered from reliable contexts, it will be possible to determine if there was a difference in access to goods between the officers and the enlisted men. It is likely that there will be a different ratio of liquor bottles to beer bottles between the officers, where the number of liquor should be relatively higher, and the enlisted men, where beer may be more common due to its cheaper cost. This pattern is likely to have changed after 1881 when R. C. Drum, the Adjutant General of the U.S. Army reported that "... the sale of intoxicating liquors was, early this year, by order of the President, prohibited at all military posts and stations" (U.S. War Department 1881:45). Beer, champagne, and wine were exempted from this prohibition and are likely to be more common in stratified deposits dated after 1881 (Herskovitz 1978:141-142). Social hierarchy is also likely to be exemplified by the discard of domestic trash if the "Garbage Project" results from Tucson (Rathje and McCarthy 1977) are appropriate to an earlier time.

The third research domain deals with the trade networks or historic interaction spheres that involved Fort Boise/Boise Barracks. By tracing bottles, pottery, clothing, military ornaments, gun parts, and other artifacts to their points of origin it will be possible to determine where these items came from and what trade routes passed through the post. What evidence is there for materials having come from the East Coast by way of California or did they come directly from the East through St. Louis, Denver, or other places to the east. What exotic materials came from the West Coast or from the Orient? The appearance of the railroad is expected to have had an impact upon the configuration of trade networks.

Another source of trade information relates to the impact of the local manufacturers upon the military storehouses and trash dumps. Which materials were manufacturered or produced locally and did not require protective packaging?

The fourth domain deals with the topic of change over time. Of concern here is how soon was Fort Boise/Boise Barracks involved in the incorporation of technological and stylistic changes that were occurring in more metropolitan areas? Did changes in military uniform parts (Brinckerhoff 1972) keep up with changes in packaging such as the use of tin cans (Rock 1984) and the development of two piece bottle molds (Miller and Sullivan 1984)? At Fort Smith, Arkansas, there has been considerable controversy about whether such changes were seen on the "frontier" soon after they originated or whether there was considerable lag (Moore 1968). The same can be said about whether new rifle styles replaced older types at the same rate on the Western frontier as they did along the East Coast and in the Mid-West.

These domains have been involved in many past investigations, and as Kelly and Ward (1972:73-74) have suggested, more answers will be realized if a formal deductive approach is used in the execution of testing, excavation, and analysis. Management recommendations are listed for each of the structures and for the

various features included in Table 8. The range of management recommendations is fairly limited due to the nature of the resources. In two cases, we recommend that buildings be restored to their original condition because they may have the potential for use as a public interpretation facilities. This recommendation will have to be carried out with the help of an historic architect and if a structure is to be restored a testing program should be involved in order to confirm the original configuration of the structure and to locate buried features.

For those structures which have been demolished, we recommend that testing be carried out prior to construction in order to locate foundation remnants and to locate buried features such as privies and cellars. Such testing should also be carried out prior to the restoration of any historic structures.

We recommend that all construction in the vicinity of known structural locations be monitored by a trained archaeologist. Likewise, we suggest that linear trenches for utilities, pipes, etc. be inspected for buried resources and also in order to develop a substantive history of landscape changes at the post. It is important to document the filling of the Cottonwood Creek channel, as well as the leveling of living and work surfaces which may have occurred in the past. This same procedure should also uncover evidence of buried features such as privies and cellars which were covered over when they were abandoned.

SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the following program be executed over the next two years while at the same time a long-term plan is developed and implemented by the Veterans Administration. The first step is to correlate known information about the location of historic buildings (both major and outbuildings) with plans by VAMC personnel for the construction of buried pipelines, parking lots, walkways and buildings.

When there is an apparent overlap between construction plans and historic resources, further testing should be done to determine if buried features are present. At the same time, we recommend that the walls and fill from all excavations done at the VAMC be inspected by trained archaeologists. This testing and the excavation inspection will provide baseline data and will allow the VAMC, in concurrence with the State Historic Preservation Officer, to avoid significant resources or to have excavations done to mitigate the loss of significant resources.

We also recommend that materials which have previously been collected from the VAMC or from Fort Boise/Boise Barracks features be analyzed. Work done in 1977 has been briefly described (Ostrogorsky 1978) but remains to be fully analyzed. Because these materials are from the controlled excavation of a trash dump, they may have the potential to explain subsistence patterns (Fradkin 1980; Mudar 1978; Schulz 1979; Schulz and Gust 1983), exchange-trade routes (Adams 1976), trash disposal patterns (Brose 1967), and other socioeconomic aspects of the nineteenth and early twentieth century military life (Ostrogorsky 1982). However, the discarding of faunal remains (Ostrogorsky 1978:7) will limit the potential for subsistence pattern reconstruction. The artifacts gathered in 1979 by the Idaho State Historical Society are briefly mentioned in this report but remain to be

analyzed and described. All of this information can be used in evaluating the historic potential of those preserved features present at Fort Boise/Boise Barracks.

LONG-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations outlined above will allow the VA, the NPS, and the SHPO to stand in the gap while a comprehensive program to locate and evaluate the historic cultural resources of Fort Boise/Boise Barracks is developed. As has been shown in Chapter II, significant cultural resources were present at Fort Boise and some are still preserved at the site. Chapter III suggests that the remains of some of these historic structures, outbuildings, and features are preserved and are available to be unearthed-either in the course of construction or by archaeological excavation.

A program for developing and realizing long-term goals is presented with a focus on three major interest areas. First is the development of a comprehensive master plan and the second is the establishment of a program of systematic exploration of buried remains. The third is the development of a program of public education and information.

The first step in responsibly managing cultural resources at Fort Boise involves the creation of a Master Plan for Resource Management (MPRM). As shown on active military bases in the Southwest (Skinner, Briuer, Thomas, Show, Mishuck, and Zahnizer 1981), this could best be executed by an archaeologist who is based at the VAMC. If we exclude this possibility because the VA, unlike the Army, is not responsible for managing large land tracts, this could best be done by the VA's staff archaeologist and historian. Creation of the Master Plan will have to take all the known historic information about Fort Boise along with information from past archaeological studies, construction projects and first-hand knowledge from present and past VAMC employees.

This information will be increased as a result of creating a data bank of published and archival information about the Fort and should be managed by the VA historian and archaeologist as they are the responsible individuals more closely involved in the VA plans. Information should be regularly solicited from interested groups such as the Historical Society, geneological organizations and others who have a vocational or avocational interest in the local and regional history of southwestern Idaho.

Once the Management Plan has been developed, it should be formally presented to the VA staff and to the VAMC. It should also be presented to the SHPO and the State Archaeologist. Program coordination of this sort is legally prescribed and when done effectively should result in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the VA, the SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on each individual construction project or preferably in the development of a Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement (PMOA). Development of a PMOA will be a means of allowing the VAMC the latitude they need to effectively carry out their responsibilities while assuring that the nonrenewable evidence of occupation at Fort Boise/Boise Barracks is being responsibly considered in the decision making process.

Besides having a short-term or crisis-oriented program for responding to immediate construction projects which might discover buried deposits and structures, we recommend the development of a regular program of testing for buried cultural resources. Besides using standard archaeological techniques such as trenches and test pits, we suggest that deep augering and metal detectors will be useful in isolating foundations, pits, trash and other features such as canals. The use of a structured program of subsurface exploration will allow the VAMC to know in advance that certain areas are cleared of significant cultural resources while others contain buried resources that will need to be avoided or may warrant excavation as a means of mitigating the loss of significant information.

The last major long-term goal at the VAMC should be a program of general education that is aimed first at the VAMC personnel but also at the general public. The presence of informed personnel at the VAMC and the current display of military items indicates a concern by the VAMC personnel for the historical heritage of Fort Boise and Boise Barracks. However, this awareness should be expanded to all personnel so that they appreciate the potential for uncovering additional information about the military occupation of the fort. Not only will this aid the VAMC in planning and management, it will also likely result in the discovery of previously unknown information about the fort. Education of the general public is not only likely to reveal new information, it also will allow the VA to inform interested citizens about the history of the fort and how they can contribute to furthering our knowledge of this important post on the Western Frontier. We recommend construction of moveable displays that can be used at the VAMC but also could be placed on show at local banks, libraries and shopping centers. A one page bifold brochure could economically be produced and given to interested visitors. A standard 15-30 minutes guided tour of the VAMC that focused on the history and historic buildings of the fort could be given to school and civic groups that visit the center and could be given with the aid of slides to school and civic groups elsewhere.

The site of Fort Boise and Boise Barracks being on the grounds of the VAMC offers the potential for protecting a resource that is significant to southwestern Idaho. At the same time, the present investigation shows that the the VA has an interest in preserving the history of the post. Increased awareness will allow Fort Boise to achieve the historic prominence that it deserves.

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